Nursery Newsletter 19 -31st January 2020

Dear Families,

We have finally reached the end of January! It has seemed such a long month but a very busy one at Little Harriers. Our 'new' children are very settled now and it seems as though they have always been with us. It is lovely to watch our little family grow!

Talking of growing, the children have taken on a little indoor gardening challenge this week! They have been very engaged with the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and curious to learn more about this plant and how it grows. After a little reassurance that no giants are likely to appear at the top, the children have planted their own bean and everyone is eager to watch their beanstalk grow! We will have lots of fun over the next couple of weeks as we measure our plants, learn more about how they grow and try to guess who will end up with the tallest beanstalk!

Our Talk for Writing has seen us ready to have a go at retelling our 'Each Peach Pear Plum' story independently. The children have done a great job and many of the children worked independently to select rhyming pairs that they have become familiar with before using them in their own retelling. Our enthusiasm for this particular text still has not waned and the children really enjoyed making their own 'plum pies' (jam tarts) on Monday morning. In fact, several children then went outside and used some of the left-over pastry and fruit in our outdoor kitchen as they continued with the theme. It was great to see everyone following the instructions again independently and we heard lots of talking about putting things in the oven "for ten minutes". Well remembered!

In Maths, we have continued with the beanstalk theme as the children have used cubes to measure stalks and counters on leaves to support developing number knowledge. The children have also been counting up the giant's treasure and seeing how many eggs have been laid by the magic hen! The children have also used numbers in their physical play as they pretended to be dragons, counting out dragon jumps, fiery breaths and shakes of their dragon tails!

The afternoon Harriers have enjoyed some more outdoor creativity this week. We have used crayons to make rubbings of different surfaces outside, including tree bark, manhole covers and the playground surface. The children were fascinated by the results and we had lots of discussion about the marks they created and what they reminded us of, including orange peel and crocodile skin.

We have had a couple of case of slapped cheek syndrome in school today. Please read the attached guidance taken from the NHS and government website. Many thanks

Finally, Birdie is ready to take flight again! After careful consideration, he has decided that he would love to visit Noel for the weekend. Noel has settled in very well at Nursery since joining us after Christmas. He is showing a growing sense of responsibility as he makes sure that everything goes back to where it should be at tidy up time and always lines up beautifully as we move about the school to our different activities. Well done, Noel. Enjoy your weekend! ③

Dates for your diary:

Website: <u>www.henhurstridgacademy.org</u> /Twitter: @HenhurstRidge

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Half term holiday- 17^{th} - 21^{st} February

Informal parent/nursery progress meetings will be offered after half term with Mrs Blackshaw. Slips will be sent out next week to enable you to book an appointment, along with available dates/times.

Wishing you a great weekend,

Mrs Blackshaw and Mrs Buckley 😊

